

Docket No  
067856.0110

PATENT APPLICATION  
Serial No. 09/620,108

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: HIPP, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/620,108  
Filing Date: July 20, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 2830  
Title: DATA I/O MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND  
METHOD

Assistant Commissioner for  
Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of this patent application entitled *Data I/O Management System and Method*, by Hipp, et al., please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the last paragraph beginning on page 34 and continuing on to the next page with the following five paragraphs:

Twelve Ethernet connectors 168 are used to couple high density connector 162 with hub chip 166. Similarly, twelve Ethernet connectors 170 are used to couple high density connector 164 with hub chip 166. Hub chip 166 consolidates management network traffic from up to twenty-four web